

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-15 NEA-10 EUR-25 DPW-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /177 W

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R 040635Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO STATE WASHDC 7735

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL CAN THO

UNCLAS SAIGON 17415

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, VS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF : A) SAIGON 17242; B) FBIS S030250 OCTOBER; C) SAIGON 16743

1. REF. A REPORTED EXTRACTS FROM PRESIDENT THIEU'S OCTOBER 1 SPEECH IN PLEIKU IN WHICH THIEU CONDEMNED THE COMMUNIST ATTACK ON LE MINH AND WARNED THAT THE ENEMY IS PREPARING ANOTHER GENERAL OFFENSIVE WITHIN TWO OR THREE MONTHS." REF. B TRANSMITS FULL TEXT OF THE 24-MINUTE ADDRESS. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES HIGHLIGHTS OF OTHER ASPECTS OF THE OCTOBER 1 THIEU PLEIKU SPEECH.
THE CEASEFIRE:

2. PRESIDENT THIEU REITERATED THAT THE PARIS AGREEMENT IS "ONLY A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT, NO MORE OR LESS....THE COMMUNISTS HAVE VIOLATED THE CEASEFIRE MORE THAN 20,000 TIMES." THE ATTACK ON
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LE MINH WAS A DELIBERATE VIOLATION, PRESIDENT THIEU CHARGED,

DENYING THAT THE GVN HAD PROVOKED A COMMUNIST REACTION BY ITS OWN "NIBBLING" ACTIONS IN THE AREA, AS THE COMMUNISTS HAVE ALLEGED. SUCH ATTACKS MUST BE "CONSIDERED AN ACT OF WAR, (WHICH WILL BE ANSWERED) BY ACTS OF WAR...WE DO NOT BEG THE COMMUNISTS TO RESPECT PEACE, WE MUST FORCE THEM TO DO SO."

LE MINH PROVES COMMUNIST INTENTIONS TOWARD MONTAGNARDS

3. PRESIDENT THIEU OBSERVED THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAVE "FREQUENTLY LURED, ENTICED, AND DECEIVED (YOU MONTAGNARDS) WITH THE THEME ABOUT AN AUTONOMOUS AND INDEPENDENT HIGHLANDS" AND POINTED OUT THAT IN ATTACKING LE MINH, THE COMMUNISTS "DESTROYED A RANGER BATTALION CONSISTING OF MONTAGNARD COMBATANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. THIS IS ELOQUENT PROOF THAT THE COMMUNISTS DO NOT SPARE ANYONE", THIEU SAID.
"THIRD FORCE":

4. PRESIDENT ALSO STRONGLY ATTACKED THE CONCEPT OF A "THIRD FORCE", CHARGING THAT "RECENTLY WE HAVE WITNESSED THE EMERGENCE OF LACKEYS OF UNDERGROUND COMMUNIST CADRES AND PROFIT-SEEKING POLITICIANS...THEY ARE SMALL IN NUMBER." THIEU ASSERTED THAT SUCH PERSONS CLAIM "THEY HAVE WORKED WITH SUCH AND SUCH PERSONALITY OR BELONGED TO THE THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, OR SIXTH FORCES." ALLUDING TO THE RECENT SPATE OF "BAO DAI MAY RETURN" RUMORS (REF. C), PRESIDENT THIEU SAID "SOME OF THESE PERSONS ARE MORE ROYALIST THAN THE KING HIMSELF. FIRST THEY SAID THAT THE KING WOULD COME HOME TODAY, THEN THEY SAID HE WOULD COME HOME TOMORROW. IN REALITY, THE KING DID NOT SAY THAT." (COMMENT: IN REMARKS LATER THAT DAY IN KONTU, PRESIDENT THIEU AGAIN RETURNED TO THE BAO DAI THEME, PRAISING THE EX-EMPEROR FOR HIS RECENT STATEMENT IN PARIS THAT HE WOULD NOT SOON BE RETURNING TO SVN AND CALLING FOR SUPPORT FOR THE PRESENT GVN. PRESIDENT THIEU TOLD HIS KONTU LISTENERS THAT "IT WOULD BE A GREAT MISTAKE" FOR BAO DAI TO TRY TO RETURN TO SVN AT THIS TIME. END COMMENT).
PRESIDENT THIEU CONTINUED:

5. AS REGARDS THE THIRD, FOURTH, OR FIFTH FORCE THAT THE COMMUNISTS SPEAK OF, OUR COMPATRIOTS MUST KNOW THAT WHEN THE COMMUNISTS CALL FOR SOMETHING, IT WILL NOT BE BENEFICIAL FOR THE NATIONALISTS....CONSEQUENTLY, THE THIRD FORCE WHICH THE
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COMMUNISTS ENCOURAGE, PAY FOR, ADVERTISE AND SUPPORT....IS NOTHING BUT A COUNTRY-SELLING FORCE."
GENERAL:

6. PRESIDENT THIEU REPEATED THE RVN DEMAND FOR THE PROMPT HOLDING OF GENERAL ELECTIONS. HE ALSO TOUCHED ON OTHER FAMILIAR THEMES, INCLUDING THE NEED TO CONTINUE TO ELIMINATE THE COMMUNIST INFRASTRUCTURE AND TO COOPERATE IN A NATIONWIDE-EFFORT TO CREATE

AN ECONOMIC "BLOCADE" OF COMMUNIST CONTROLLED AREAS.
APPLING

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TREATY VIOLATION, INFILTRATION, GROUND COMBAT OPERATIONS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON17415
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731050/aaaabkyl.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) SAIGON 17242; B) FBIS S030250 OCT, OBER; C) SAIGON 16743
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Nov-2001 by chappeld>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINT, PINS, VS, VN, (THIEU)
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005